

## 2003 YOUTH RISK BEHAVIOR SURVEY RESULTS

### Missouri High School Survey Survey Summary

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The Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) was completed by 1551 students in 24 public high schools in Missouri during the spring of 2003. The school response rate was 80%, the student response rate was 84%, and the overall response rate was 67%. The results are representative of all students in grades 9-12. The weighted demographic characteristics of the sample are as follows:

Females	49.1%	9th grade	28.0%	African American	15.7%
Males	50.9%	10th grade	25.8%	Hispanic/ Latino	0.8%
		11th grade	23.8%	White	80.9%
		12th grade	22.4%	All other races	1.1%
				Multiple races	1.4%

Students completed a self-administered, anonymous, 87-item questionnaire. Survey procedures were designed to protect the privacy of students by allowing for anonymous and voluntary participation. Local parental permission procedures were followed before survey administration.

The YRBS is one component of the Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System developed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in collaboration with representatives from 71 state and local departments of education and health, 19 other federal agencies, and national education and health organizations. The Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System was designed to focus the nation on behaviors among youth related to the leading causes of mortality and morbidity among both youth and adults and to assess how these risk behaviors change over time. The Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System measures behaviors that fall into six categories:

1. Behaviors that result in unintentional injuries and violence;
2. Tobacco use;
3. Alcohol and other drug use;
4. Sexual behaviors that result in HIV infection, other sexually transmitted diseases, and unintended pregnancies;
5. Dietary behaviors; and
6. Physical activity.

More information about the Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System can be obtained from <http://www.cdc.gov/yrbss>.